

# The Articulator

## Dr. John Faber

CDDS President 2009-2010.

The Central District will be ably led this year by Dr. John Faber, an Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon who practices with Oral Surgery Associates of Lansing. John completed his oral surgery training at the University of Southern California after receiving his DDS in 1994 from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. His local ties include a baccalaureate degree from Michigan State in Biochemistry.

John is married to Dr. Beth Ann Faber, a Central District member who practices in Williamston. John and Beth Ann have two children, nine-year old Samuel and seven-year old Benjamin. I had the opportunity recently to sit down with John and talk about the state of our profession, the challenges we face and the goals that he would like to achieve as our president.

At the top of John's list of challenges faced by our profession is access to care. Dr. Faber has been heavily involved with hospital and emergency room-based care in our community and has grave concerns about the cost of treatment and the lack of reimbursement for even the most basic care for those without insurance and resources. He feels that standards of care are bound to suffer in the current climate and acknowledges that there are no easy solutions to this problem.

The current state of insurance reimbursement and the increasingly aggressive stance taken by insurers to limit fees and dictate treatment is also worrisome. With the loss of dental insurance for General Motors retirees, most area dentists have experienced a decrease in demand for services. John feels that this is an education and public relations problem; patients need to be educated about the realities of reimbursement and the real cost of untreated dental problems.

Dr. Faber acknowledges that these two formidable problems, access-to-care and shrinking insurance reimbursement, cannot be addressed at our local level, but will involve organized dentistry as a whole, underscoring the need for all dentists to remain involved and committed. Our market share is our greatest strength.

A problem that John does intend to tackle this year is the growing issue of advanced technology and the communication problems that have emerged as multiple systems of digital radiography and accompanying dental software packages are adopted by individual practices. This initiative will have three parts. First, the Central District will provide quick access to current email addresses via the website. Second, HIPAA guidelines for digital interchange will be provided on the website so that offices can be in compliance with privacy guidelines as data is shared. Finally, resources will be posted on the Central District website that will provide direction for practices that want to improve communication and data interchange. The goal of this initiative is to insure that radiographs, photographs and printed communication are provided in easily accessible electronic formats at a diagnostic level of quality using HIPAA-compliant protocols.

All incoming presidents voice some apprehension about "just getting through my year." There is always the lurking fear that this is the year that the next big dental public relations disaster hits and that as president you will be caught on the 6 o'clock news like a deer in the headlights. Dr. Faber is clearly well-prepared for his presidential year and ready for the crises that may arise. Planning for the continuing education program is complete along with a holiday party and charity event benefitting Ele's Place. Central District's Give Kids a Smile event has been scheduled and will continue to be our signature community service project. We are fortunate to have committed volunteers like John Faber who are willing to step up and do the hard work necessary to lead our society. I look forward to a positive and productive year for the Central District.  
*Brad Eschler, ed.*



### CDDS Events

2009-2010

#### *Continuing Education*

**9/29/2009**

Diagnosis and Treatment of Common Mucosal Lesions  
Dr. Kitrina Cordell  
Causeway Bay Hotel, 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

**11/10/2009**

Dr. Erika Benavides  
Advances in Digital Radiography  
Causeway Bay Hotel, 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

**02/09/2010**

Mr. Brett Beier (Norman Camera)  
Photography: A Focus in the Digital Age  
Causeway Bay Hotel, 4:00-9:00 PM  
*Optional "Hands-on" Session Included*

**03/19/2010**

Dr. Christopher Marchack  
The Road to Restoration with Dental Implants  
Eagle Eye Golf Club, Full Day Presentation  
*Includes a separate half-day program for staff members presented by the Nobel Biocare Staff and staff from Care Credit.*

#### *Social Program*

**12/10/2009**

Holiday Party at Walnut Hills Country Club  
*Donations to go to Ele's Place*

**05/13/2010**

CDDS President's Night  
Walnut Hills Country Club

Golf Outing 2010: Details TBA

#### *Board Meetings*

10/06/2009

11/03/2009

01/05/2010

02/02/2010

03/02/2010

03/30/2010

Gilbert and Blakes Restaurant, 6:30 PM

## CDDS Continuing Education 2009-2010: Program Highlights

The Central District's continuing education program kicks off on **Tuesday, September 29, 2009, at 6:00 PM** at the Causeway Bay Hotel. The featured speaker is Dr. Kitrina Cordell, an oral pathologist from the U-M School of Dentistry. Her presentation is entitled, "Diagnosis and Treatment of Common Mucosal Lesions." The emphasis in this presentation is on management strategies that can be used in any dental practice as well as guidelines on when lesions need to be biopsied. Mucosal problems are very common in practice; Dr. Cordell is a knowledgeable and engaging speaker, who will present a practical, up-to-date approach to these orphan dental conditions.

The next two presentations focus on new technology. Dr. Erika Benavides will review "Advances in Radiology: Digital Radiography" on **Tuesday, November 10, 2009, at 6:00 PM** at the Causeway Bay Hotel. Dr. Benavides, a professor of oral radiology at the U-M School of Dentistry, will review the state of the science in digital radiography. On **Tuesday, February 9, 2009**, Brett Beier from Norman Camera will give a presentation entitled, "Photography; A Focus on the Digital Age." The presentation will once again be held at the Causeway Bay Hotel, but the start time is 4:00 PM. After a lecture presentation, dinner will be served. After dinner, an optional hands-on session will be available. Mr. Beier will bring several digital cameras for the hands-on session and participants are encouraged to bring their own digital cameras to the session. These two presentations on digital technologies support the year-long goal set by the Board of Directors to improve communication using new technologies in dental practice.

All three of the evening meetings are free to members by sending in a \$25.00 check to hold your reservation. Your check will be returned on the evening of the presentation. Staff are welcome to attend any or all of these meetings at a cost of \$35.00 per meeting.

The final continuing education meeting for the 2009-2010 cycle is a full day offering for doctors and staff on implant dentistry to be held on **Friday, March 19, 2009, at Eagle Eye**. Dr. Christopher Marchak will give a full day presentation entitled, "The Road to Restoration with Dental Implants" that is geared toward dentists. Staff are welcome to attend a half-day session that will focus on implant issues related to the dental team including the "parts and pieces" of the Nobel Biocare implant system, the coding and billing aspects of dental implant care and how the Care Credit program can improve and enhance an implant practice. The registration fee for this meeting for CDDS members is \$50.00. The fee for MDA member dentists from other components is \$175.00 and the fee for nonmember dentists is \$350.00. For the half day session that includes lunch, the registration fee for staff is \$50.00. *ed.*

## Officers/Committee Chairs 2009-2010

President	Dr. John Faber	517-349-8383	<a href="mailto:jfaber@osalansing.com">jfaber@osalansing.com</a>
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	Dr. Kristina Palmer	517-393-4900	<a href="mailto:kpalmersdds@gmail.com">kpalmersdds@gmail.com</a>
Nominations	Dr. Pat Gadola	517-543-2820	<a href="mailto:patgadola@comcast.net">patgadola@comcast.net</a>
Web Master	Dr. Vince Benivegna	517-337-9759	<a href="mailto:vboms@iserv.net">vboms@iserv.net</a>

### CDDS Roster Update...

If there have been changes in your address, phone, or e-mail, please fill in the blanks below and mail to:

Dr. Mark Johnston  
1850 W. Mt. Hope  
Lansing, MI 48910

e-mail: [mark.m.johnston@comcast.net](mailto:mark.m.johnston@comcast.net)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Office Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

*Changes only please!*

*When you see Mark, be sure to thank him for all the work he has put in on the roster over the years.*



ADA American Dental Association®

Give Kids a Smile 2010

CDDS-LCC

Screening: 11/04/2009

Treatment: 02/15/2010

## New Dentists to Meet

The activities for the New Dentists Group are being organized this year by Drs. Nikole Pecora and Kristina Palmer. The first meeting of the New Dentists Group is scheduled for Wednesday, October 7, 2009, at 7:00 PM at Champ's Sports Bar and Grill at the Eastwood Towne Center. This is an informal gathering to get to know other members of the group and network with your peers. Activities of the New Dentists Group are open to area dentists who have been in practice less than 10 years.

The *Articulator* is published four times yearly with Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring editions. The Editor is Dr. Brad Eschler, who can be contacted at [tbradster@aol.com](mailto:tbradster@aol.com)

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